

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling presents  
BIBLIOBANDIDO: STORY EATER, A Project Initiated by Marisa Morán  
Jahn (Studio REV-) with Residents of El Pital, Honduras**  
*On view from March 1 to June 3, 2018, the exhibition will be the artist  
Marisa Morán Jahn's first solo show in a US Museum*

**PRESS PREVIEW:**

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 from 6-7:00pm  
Sugar Hill Children's Museum, 898 St. Nicholas Ave., NYC  
RSVP to [press@sugarhillmuseum.org](mailto:press@sugarhillmuseum.org)

**NEW YORK, NY, January 31, 2018** - The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling is proud to announce its spring exhibition entitled ***BIBLIOBANDIDO: STORY EATER, A Project Initiated by Marisa Morán Jahn (Studio REV-) with Residents of El Pital, Honduras.*** The exhibition is the renowned social practice artist, Marisa Morán Jahn's first solo show in a US museum. Developed in collaboration with architect Darío Nuñez-Ameni of Atelier DNA (formerly of Acconci Studio), guest curated by Amy Rosenblum Martín and organized by Museum Director and Chief Curator, Lauren Kelley, this participatory, multimedia installation unfolds the story world of *Bibliobandido*, a story bandit that eats stories and terrifies little kids into offering him stories they've written. The exhibition will be on view from March 1 to June 3, 2018.

*Bibliobandido* was originally conceived in 2010 by Morán Jahn in collaboration with residents of El Pital, a rural Honduran community with a low literacy rate. In an effort to avoid general calamity, the local children would prepare their monthly sacrifice of stories for the masked bandit. In addition, on the third week of every month, *Bibliobandido Week*, local youth collaborate with one of 19 participating villages to invent new characters and narratives, adding to the character's saga. Today, thousands of children in Honduras, Miami (Florida), New York, Nicaragua, and Seattle (Washington), have come to believe in *Bibliobandido*, a character whose fame rivals Santa Claus's.

Visitors will be invited into the dark shadowy space guided only by battery-powered candles (provided at the entrance) to explore the mysterious, and interactive environment. Upon entering you will be overcome with projected enneper shadows throughout the space to evoke a rainforest, in homage to *Bibliobandido*'s birthplace Pital, Honduras. To highlight the urgency and dignity of storytelling, visitors of all ages are asked to create their own book and make an offering of stories to appease the appetite of the well-loved villain. A video featuring the children of Honduras telling the story of *Bibliobandido* in Spanish with English subtitles will be on view, as well.

Most recently, through a commission from the Peabody Essex Museum, Morán Jahn began collaborating with *Horizons for Homeless Children* to create *Bibliobandido*-inspired pre-literacy activities for toddlers throughout the state of Massachusetts, whose development has been impacted by challenges including food shortage, domestic violence, and homelessness. In 2016, the Seattle Public Library adopted the masked bandit as a mascot for their digital literacy programs.

## **RELATED PUBLIC PROGRAMMING**

### **Family Reception for BIBLIOBANDIDO: STORY EATER**

**Thursday, March 1, 1pm – 4pm, Free with Museum Admission**

Celebrate the opening of our new spring show *BIBLIOBANDIDO: STORY EATER* with family and friends! Snacks and refreshments will be served.

### **STORY TIME with Bibliobandido**

**Saturday, May 12, 11am – 4pm, Free with Museum Admission**

Meet *Bibliobandido* and his story-loving friends, including *Adject-Diva*, *Jalapeanut*, and others! Join the fun and create your own pop-up book, a “popsicle book”, or other fun easy-to-make books to take home. Share your story to appease *Bibliobandido*'s insatiable appetite (although we *all* love a good story!)

### **Paper Circuitry Workshop**

**On-going | For more info, visit [sugarhillmuseum.org](http://sugarhillmuseum.org)**

Come learn how to illuminate the pages of a simple book with paper, a watch battery, and light! Inspired by *Bibliobandido*, participants will learn basic story crafting, paper folding techniques, and an introduction to basic electronic circuitry.

### **ABOUT MARISA MORAN JAHN**

Marisa Morán Jahn is an artist, activist, and founder of Studio REV-, a non-profit organization whose public art + creative media with low-wage workers, immigrants, and youth has been seen by millions of viewers at diverse venues including The White House in D.C., Tribeca Film Festival, Museum of Modern Art, worker centers around the nation, and a PBS docu-series entitled *The CareForce One Travelogues* produced with Oscar and Emmy-winning filmmaker Yael Melamede (SALTY Features). Morán Jahn regularly teaches at MIT, Teachers College at Columbia University, and The New School. In addition, for the past 20 years, she has taught and developed curricula for K-12 youth in public schools, museums (American Museum of Natural History), and libraries (Seattle Public Library). Her work has received acclaim in *The New York Times*, *Art Forum*, *Art in America*, *Univision*, *BBC*, *CNN*, *Los Angeles Times* and has been awarded grants from Creative Capital, Tribeca Film Institute, Sundance, NEA, Rockefeller Foundation, Map Fund, and Anonymous Was a Woman.

### **ABOUT THE SUGAR HILL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF ART & STORYTELLING**

The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling is the cultural capstone of the Sugar Hill Project in Harlem, a mixed use community revitalization initiative developed by Broadway Housing Communities, a nonprofit organization based in West Harlem and Washington Heights. The Museum offers year-round art exhibitions, storytelling series, art-making workshops and an early childhood arts education curriculum. Museum programs are designed to nurture the curiosity, creative spirit and cognitive development of three- to eight-year-old children, building the language, literacy and critical thinking skills that lead to lifelong learning.

The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling is located at 898 St. Nicholas Avenue at 155th Street in New York City. Hours are Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 5pm. Admission prices vary; children under the age of 9 are always free. For more information on the Museum, please visit [www.sugarhillmuseum.org](http://www.sugarhillmuseum.org).

To connect with the Sugar Hill Children's Museum via Social Media, follow us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/sugarhillmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/sugarhillmuseum) and using @sugarhillmuseum on Instagram and Twitter.



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